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**AN
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ON
VIRTUAL MOUSE USING HAND GESTURES
PROJECT
BY
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Date: 2024/03/21

Virtual Mouse using Hand Gestures

Abstract

This paper proposes a virtual mouse system based on HCI using computer vision and hand gestures. Techniques for establishing the process of human-computer interaction (HCI) have evolved since the invention of computer technology. The mouse is its great invention in HCI (Human-Computer Interaction) technology. Wireless or Bluetooth mouse technology is still in development, but the technology is not yet completely device-free. The Bluetooth mouse requires battery power and a connection dongle. The presence of additional devices in the mouse makes it difficult to use. The proposed mouse system solves these limitations. We have written a program for controlling the mouse movement using Python and OpenCV with a real-time camera that detects hand patterns, tracks hand gesture patterns that replaces the work of a traditional physical mouse. Gestures captured with an integrated camera or webcam are processed with recognition technology. The user can control some of the computer's cursor functions with hand gesturing movements. Primarily, users can left-click, right-click, and double-click by scrolling their hand up or down with various gestures. This system captures frames using a webcam or built-in camera, processes the frames to make them trackable, recognizes various gestures made by the user, and performs mouse functions. Therefore, the proposed mouse system eliminates dependence on device to use the mouse. So the development of HCI technology can help.

Introduction

The most effective and expressive means of human communication is hand gestures, which is a widely accepted language. It is expressive enough for the deaf and dumb to understand. In this work, a real-time hand gesture system is proposed.

Test setup of the system using the low-cost, fixed-position web camera mounted on a computer monitor, or a fixed camera on a laptop, with the system's high-definition recording capability. This image captures a snapshot using a fixed distance red-cyan [RGB] color space.

The gesture-controlled virtual mouse simplifies human-computer interaction using hand gestures. There is no need of physical contact between the user and the computer. All I/O operations can be controlled virtually by static and dynamic hand gestures. This project uses state-of-the-art machine learning and computer vision algorithms for hand gesture recognition that works seamlessly without any additional hardware requirements. It leverages models like CNN implemented by MediaPipe that run on top of pybind11. It works directly on the hand using MediaPipe hand detection.

This system is implemented in Python programming language using the Computer Vision based library OpenCV. This system has the potential to replace the typical mouse and also the remote controller of machines. The only barrier is the lighting condition. That's why the

system still can't be enough to replace the traditional mouse as most of the computers are used in poor lighting conditions

Problem description and Overview

When designing such a system, we require a camera setup that is positioned in a manner so it can see the user's hands in the right positions clearly that it can track fingertips as a movable object.

Applications

Video conferencing is very popular these days. For this reason, most computer users use a webcam on their computer and most laptops have a built-in web camera. The proposed system, which is based on a web camera, is able to partially eliminate the need for a mouse. Process interacting with the computer using hand gestures is very interesting and effective approach to HCI (Human-Computer Interaction). There is really good research in this area of work. There is also hand gesture recognition technology popular in sign language recognition.

Objective

The main objective of the proposed virtual AI mouse is to furnish an alternative to the conventional physical mouse that provides mouse functions with the help of computer vision enabled computer that houses a web camera which recognizes fingers and hand gestures and processes the captured frames and uses a machine learning algorithm to execute the defined mouse functions like moving the cursor, right click, left click and scrolling function. Also we are using multiple libraries to perform this project.

Proposed System

Using the current system, although there are a number of quick access methods available for hand and mouse gesture for notebooks, we could use laptop or webcam and hand recognition in our project we could use the gesture to control the mouse and perform basic operations such as controlling the mouse pointer, selecting and deselecting using the left button and the quick file access function transmission between systems connected via a LAN cable. The finished project is "zero cost" hand recognition system that uses simple algorithms to do track the hand and hand movements; by assigning an action for each move. But our main focus is primarily on actions such as pointing and clicking, and also defining an action to transfer files between connected systems using hand movements alone. The system we are

implementing is written in much more responsive python code and is easy to implement because python is a simple language, platform independent, flexible and portable; this is what was desired when created a program so focused on that the purpose of was to create a virtual mouse and hand recognition system. The system is much more extensible by defining actions for the movement of the needle to perform a specific action. It can be further modified by performing such actions for the whole hand gesture.

RELATED WORK

Work on virtual mice has been done in which the user wears gloves for the system to recognize and collect data, and also another system where pieces of colored paper are tied on the hand for gesture recognition. do, although such systems are not feasible to explicitly perform mouse actions. Glove recognition is not always possible and many users do not want to wear gloves or the gloves may not fit properly. In other cases, using colored tips for gesture detection and processing may not always work with low accuracy. Other people have contributed leading up to this system, such as Google's work with MediaPipe (an open source hand detection library).

ALGORITHM USED FOR HAND DETECTION

In this project work, MediaPipe library, which is an open source cross-platform framework; and the OpenCV library for computer vision are used for hand and finger tracking. This algorithm uses machine learning concepts to track and detect hand and fingertip gestures.

MEDIAPIPE

The MediaPipe framework is used by developers to build and analyze systems through graphics and it has also been used to develop systems for application purposes. The MediaPipe library is used by developers to design and analyze various models graphically, and many of them have been used to create applications. MediaPipe Hands uses an ML pipeline consisting of multiple models that work together. The MediaPipe embedded model will work in pipeline mode. It mainly consists of graphs, nodes, streams and calculators. The MediaPipe framework is based on three basic parts; it is a benchmark, a framework for retrieving data from sensors and a set of components called computers and they are reusable. A pipeline is a graph made up of components called computers, where each computer is connected by streams through which data packets flow. The sales flow is implemented as a MediaPipe chart using a trailing trailing subgraph from the trailing stops module and displayed using a handgraph renderer. The internal hand signal tracking subgraph uses the hand signal subgraph from the same module and the palm detection subgraph from the palm detection module. Computer and flow combine to create data flow diagrams; image created with MediaPipe where each node is a computer and the nodes are connected by threads. Mediapipe provides cross-platform and customizable open source ML solutions for live and streaming media. This is useful in many situations such as:

1. Selfie segmentation.
2. Face mesh

3.Human pose detection and tracking

4.Holistic tracking

5.3D object detection.

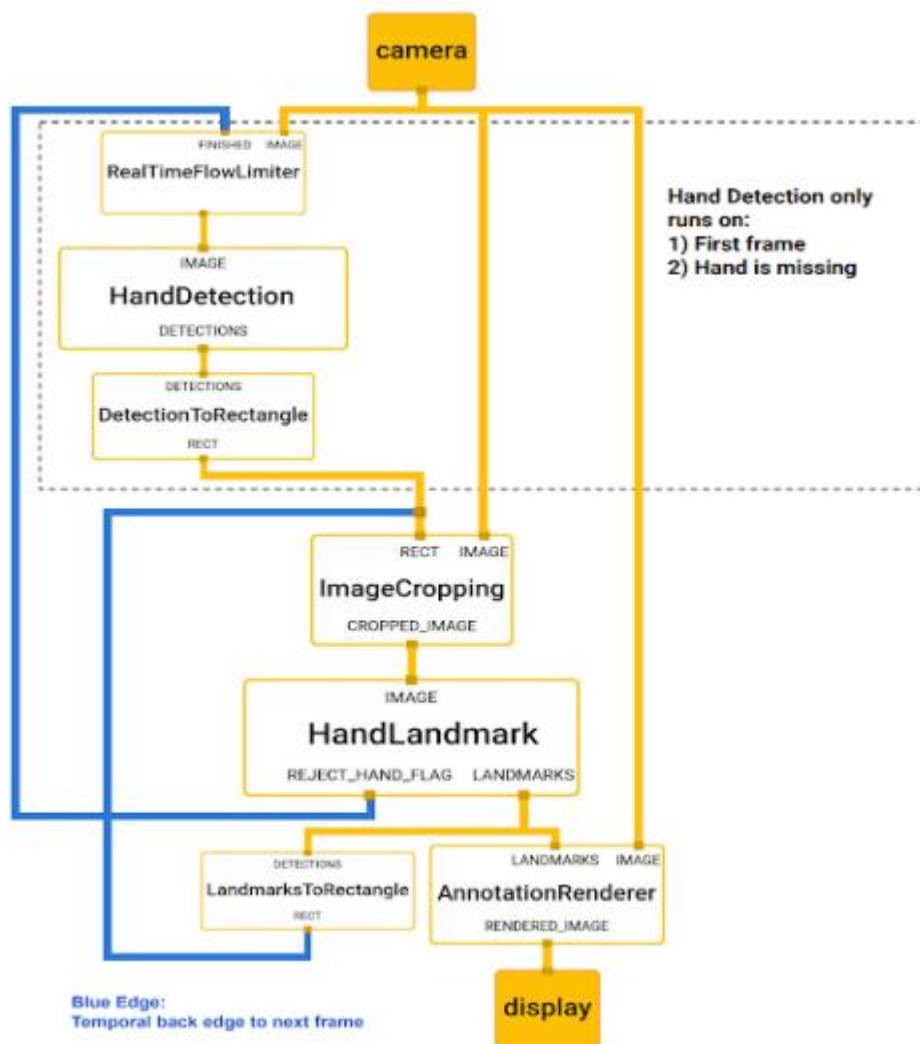


FIG: Hand Recognition graph MediaPipe

OPENCV

OpenCV (Open Source Computer Vision Library) is an open source computer vision and machine learning software library. The library contains more than 2500 optimized algorithms, including a comprehensive set of classical and modern machine learning and computer vision algorithms. This library is written in python language and helps to

create applications using computer vision. In this model, the OpenCV library is used for image and video processing as well as for face and object detection and analysis. The development of hand gesture recognition in Python and OpenCV can be done by applying the theories of hand segmentation and hand detection system using Haarcascade classifier.

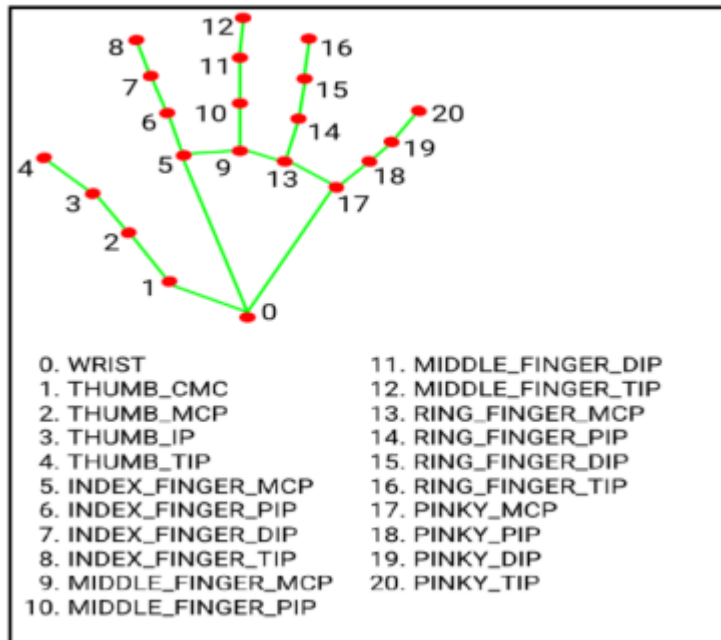


FIG: Hand landmarks points used by MediaPipe

Methodology

Each component in its working is individually explained in the following subsections respectively:

Image Processing:

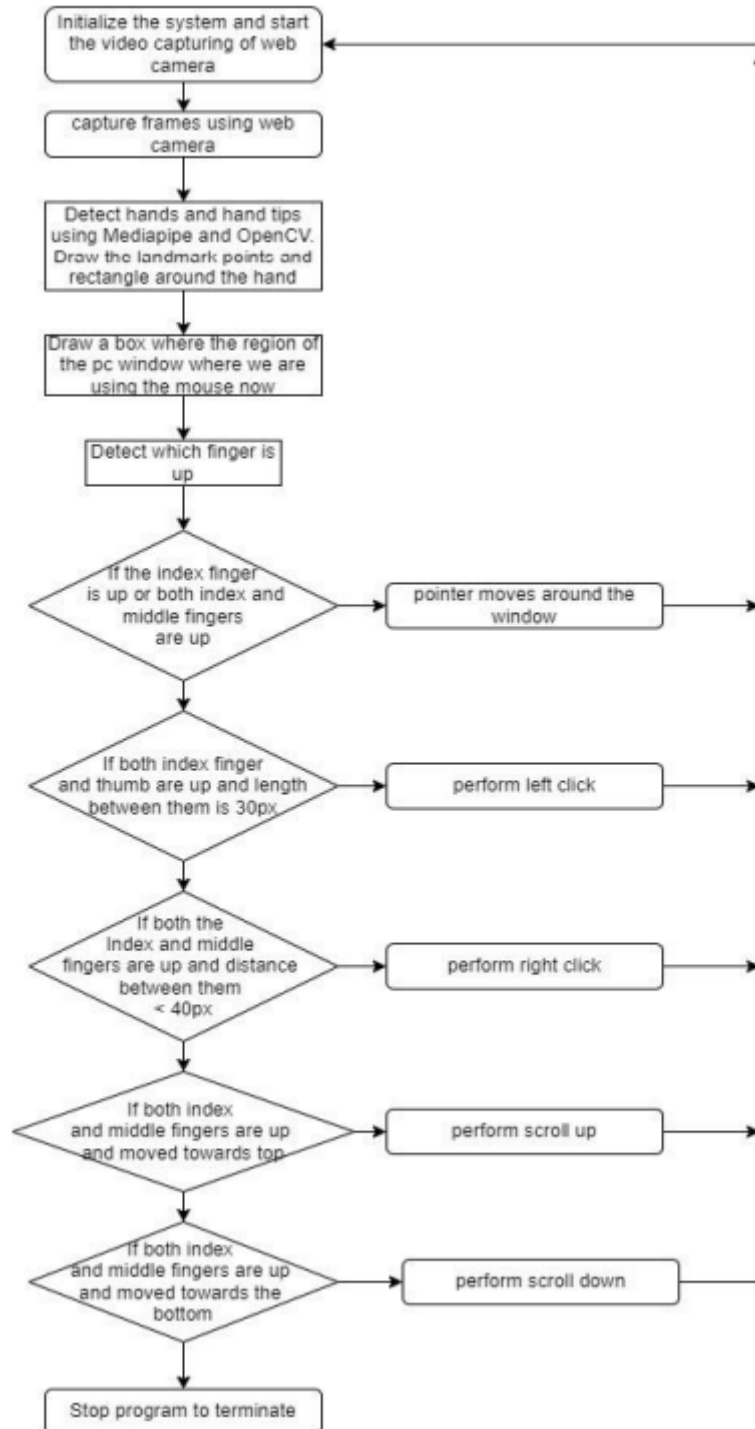
1.Camera Setup

Runtime operations are handled by the webcam of the connected laptop or desktop. To capture video, we need to create a Video Capture object. Its argument can be the device index or the name of the video file. The device index is just a number to designate which camera. Since we use only one camera, we convert it to '0'. We can add

more cameras to the system and stream them as 1,2 and so on. We can then shoot frame by frame.

2.Capturing Frames

The infinite loop is used for web camera to take pictures in each instance and is open during the entire program run. We capture the live stream, frame by frame. We then process each image captured in the (default) RGB color space to the HSV color space. There are more than 150 color space conversion methods available in OpenCV. But we will only look at the two most widely used codes, BGR to Gray and BGR to HSV.



PROCESSING THE COLLECTED FRAMES

The web camera continues to collect images until the program below closes. The captured images from the video are collected in BGR color format from the web camera. In order for OpenCV to process images, the BGR color format must be converted to the RGB color format

Subsequently, OpenCV processes the frames to detect hand/s.

```
image = cv2.cvtColor(frame, cv2.COLOR_BGR2RGB)  
image = cv2.cvtColor(image, cv2.COLOR_RGB2BGR)
```

RECOGNIZING THE GESTURE

At this stage, if the hand is tracked and the finger continues to point, MediaPipe recognizes the finger and tip with the 21 coordinates on the finger, processes the gesture, and performs the corresponding mouse action.

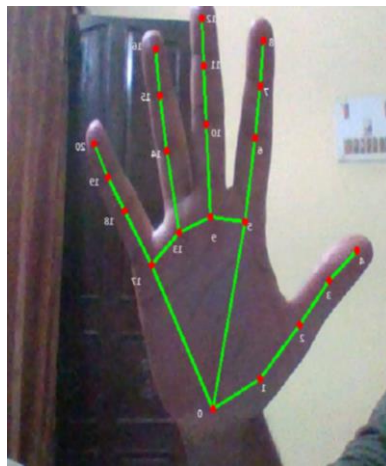


Fig:Land marks on hand

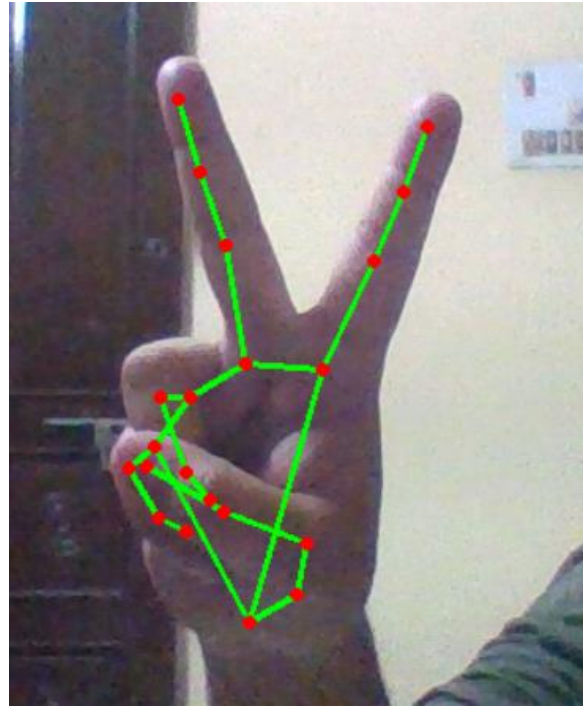


Fig: moving Cursor with 2 fingers



Fig: Dragging with closed fist

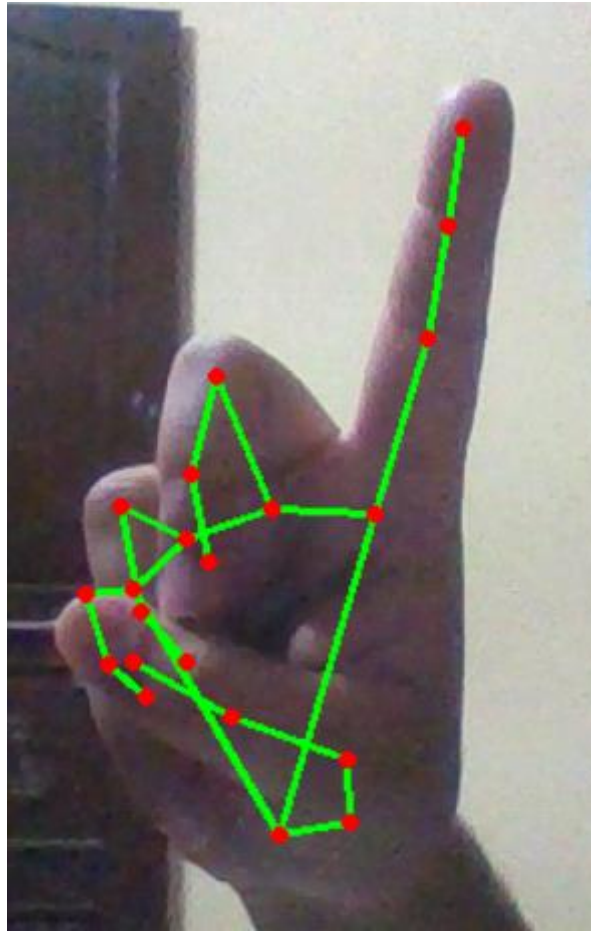


Fig: Left and right Click with one finger

RESULTS AND INFERENCES

Cross-comparing AI virtual mouse system tests is troublesome because only a limited number of datasets can be accessed. Hand gestures and fingertip detection have been tested in a variety of lighting conditions and also tested with different distances from the camera to track and detect hand gestures at your fingertips

The test was performed 40 times by 2 persons resulting in 320 gestures with manual labelling, and this test has been made in different light conditions and at different distances from the screen, and each person tested the AI virtual mouse system 10 times in normal light conditions, 10 times in faint light conditions, 10 times in close distance from the webcam, and 10 times in long distance from the webcam, and the experimental results are tabulated in Table below:

Mouse Function	Correct operation	Evaluation	
		Incorrect Operations	Accuracy
Pointer Movement	75	5	93.7
Left click	70	10	87.5
Right Click	72	8	90.0
Drag/Drop	68	12	85.0
Result	285	35	89.06

CONCLUSION

The main objective of the proposed virtual AI mouse is to furnish an alternative to the conventional physical mouse that provides mouse functions with the help of computer vision enabled computer that houses a web camera which recognizes fingers and hand gestures and processes the captured frames and uses a machine learning algorithm to execute the defined mouse functions like moving the cursor, right click, left click and scrolling function.

After testing we have come to the conclusion that the proposed virtual mouse system has worked exceedingly well and with greater accuracy when compared to previously proposed models mentioned in the related work and the current system has overcome the drawbacks of the other systems. As such, this proposed AI based virtual mouse system can be used in real-time and in real-world applications. Additionally, the system eliminates the need to contact high touch surfaces and devices by using hand gestures without using a conventional mouse device.

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